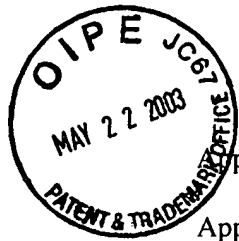


ASMMC.036AUS



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : SOPHIE ET AL.
App. No. : 09/975,466
Filed : October 9, 2001
For : IN SITU REDUCTION OF COPPER
OXIDE PRIOR TO SILICON
CARBIDE DEPOSITION
Examiner : Kielin, E.

Group Art Unit 2813

I hereby certify that this correspondence and all marked attachments are being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on

May 19, 2003
(Date)

Andrew N. Merickel, Reg. No. 53,317

15/B (A)

5/28/3

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AMENDMENT AND REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

Mail Stop AF

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

The present amendment is in response to the Final Office Action mailed on March 28, 2003, setting a three month term for response. As the present amendments are believed to place the application in condition for allowance, their entry is respectfully requested.